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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 762
By Arriola

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the staff, volunteers, and food donors of Nashville's Table upon rescuing the organization's ten millionth pound of food.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize and commend those exemplary organizations that are dedicated to improving the quality of life of the citizens of this great State; and

WHEREAS, one such outstanding not-for-profit organization is Nashville's Table, which this year will reach the milestone of having rescued ten million pounds of excess prepared and perishable food from more than 300 area establishments; and

WHEREAS, Nashville's Table distributes this food, free of charge, to more than 100 agencies serving hungry, needy, and homeless populations; and

WHEREAS, the only prepared and perishable food rescue program in Middle Tennessee, Nashville's Table, was founded in 1989 by former Nashville Mayor Phil Bredesen; and

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WHEREAS, since its first food delivery, Nashville's Table's ten full-time employees and large group of volunteers, working with approximately \$2 million in donated goods and services, have provided food for more than 7.8 million meals; and

WHEREAS, approximately 13 percent of the U.S. population faces hunger daily and more than 21 million American citizens stood in food lines throughout this country as recently as 1997; and

WHEREAS, a recent Department of Agriculture report indicates Americans waste 27 percent of their food; redirection of only half of the food that is wasted each year would eliminate hunger in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee ranks among the top ten states in the number of households experiencing food insecurity, and Tennessee ranks seventh worst in the number of children who are hungry; and

WHEREAS, over the last thirteen years, Nashville's Table has steadfastly worked to feed Nashville's hungry, rescuing ten million pounds of excess food and distributing it to service agencies throughout the Nashville area; and

WHEREAS, Nashville's Table has provided an invaluable service to the citizens of Nashville and this State, and Tennessee is fortunate to have such an exceptional program within our borders; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate for this General Assembly to pay tribute to one of Tennessee's most remarkable service organizations, Nashville's Table, on the occasion of this significant milestone; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend the staff, volunteers, and food donors of Nashville's Table upon rescuing ten million pounds of excess food and distributing it to local

service agencies; salute their dedication and hard work; and express our heartfelt gratitude for their meritorious service to the good people of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we also extend to the staff, volunteers, and food donors of Nashville's Table our best wishes for the continued success of this most beneficial service program, as they work to expand and ensure the long-term future of the program and increase public awareness of food waste.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.